IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A system for remotely providing cost accounting with respect to the usage of a machine, said system comprising:

memory means for providing an accounting database;

controller means for processing information stored by and retrieved from said database;

network means for coupling said machine to said database via said controller; and

interface means coupled to said database via said network for effecting communication therewith, said interface means including an embedded web server for transmitting and receiving said information to and from said database.

2. (Original) The invention of Claim 1 wherein said machine is a copy machine.

3. (Original) The invention of Claim 1 wherein said machine is a printing machine.

4. (Original) The invention of Claim 1 further including means disposed at said machine for transmitting information to said database via said controller relating to usage of said machine in connection with a predetermined job.

5. (Original) The invention of Claim 1 further including an authentication database operationally coupled to said controller.

6. (Original) The invention of Claim 1 wherein said user interface is housed within said machine.

7. (Original) The invention of Claim 1 wherein said user interface is physically separate from said machine.

8. (Original) The invention of Claim 7 wherein said user interface is a wireless user interface.

9. (Original) The invention of Claim 1 wherein said network is the Internet.

10. (Original) The invention of Claim 1 wherein said network is an Intranet.

11. (Original) A system for remotely providing cost accounting with respect to the usage of a copy, print or facsimile machine, said system comprising:

an accounting database stored in a memory;

a processor coupled to said memory;

software adapted to run on said processor;

a user interface coupled to said machine;

a network interface coupled to said machine, said network interface including an embedded web server; and

a network coupled between said machine and said processor.

12. (Original) A method for remotely providing cost accounting with respect to the usage of a machine, said method including the steps of:

providing an accounting database;

providing user input to said database via a network;

coupling said machine to said network via a web server embedded in said machine; and

storing information with respect to the usage of said machine in said database.

13. (New) A system for remotely providing cost accounting comprising:

a web server;

an accounting database operationally coupled to said web server; and

at least one machine coupled to said server via said network, said machine having an embedded web server and the usage of said machine being monitored and controlled by said web server in response to data stored in said database relating thereto.